

District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers



SE 17th Street Mobility – The **Second SE 17th Street Mobility Plan Public Workshop** was held on April 25 at the Embassy Suites on SE 17th Street. More than 60 community members attended the workshop, which was an open-house format that included informational boards with recommendations and strategies developed throughout the course of the project based on stakeholder input. Recommendations included vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit connectivity solutions in the study area, as well as signal operational improvements and land use and policy recommendations.

The connectivity solutions aim at providing alternative routes to SE 17th Street and US 1 to access the different destinations and relieve traffic congestion along SE 17th Street. They also provide options for creating and augmenting pedestrian and bicycle facilities on and around SE 17th Street. The vehicular operational solutions focus on signal improvements to help facilitate travel within the study area. Other recommendations include wayfinding, transit coordination opportunities, and specific policy change recommendations.

Input received from the workshop will be used to finalize the recommendations and develop a prioritized list of improvements that can be implemented in the short-, mid-, and long-term horizons. A third public workshop will be held this summer to discuss the prioritized recommendations. To read comments previously posted and to review information presented at this meeting, log on to <http://maps.kittelson.com/17thStreet>.

Bahia Mar – We are still awaiting an appraisal for the site. As I've stated publicly, I can't measure the value of the property without the appraisal; I need to know the value of the property with no lease, with the lease, and with the new lease. This will help me assess what is a fair deal for the City. At the Special Commission Meeting on May 10, we voted 4-1 in favor of the revised site plan. The second hearing on the rezoning ordinance will be held June 7. However, the lease will not be discussed until after this next hearing on the rezoning. For information, please consult <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/sustainable-development/urban-design-and-planning/bahia-mar-proposed-development>.

2016 Community Appearance Awards – I am pleased to announce that District IV was well recognized at this event on May 12! Poinciana Park and Tarpon River won awards for the KaBOOM! Playground and the Fourth Avenue Tarpon River Bridge Mural and Beautification Project, respectively. The Rotary's Power of One Hour was acknowledged for several volunteer projects in Riverside Park. Property of the Year tied between The Weckstrom Residence in District II and The Ravine Residence in Lauderdale Harbours (District IV), which also won Best New Construction of a Single-family Residence (>3,000 sf). Other notable properties included The Bradshaw/Hammond Residence in Edgewood that received an award for Best Renovation of a Single-family Residence (<1,500 sf), as did The Scherer Home (>3,000 sf) in Rio Vista. The Hoch Family Center Village Courtyard at First Presbyterian Church in Colee Hammock earned Best Institutional Renovation. Best New Construction of a Commercial High-rise went to One West Las Olas in the Downtown area. Gore Betz Park in River Oaks won Best New Construction – Municipal Parks. Best Landscape was awarded to The Symons Residence in Harbor Beach. Congratulations To All!

Curb Protectors – From time to time, I am asked whether "pyramid stones" in the swale area are allowed under City Code. They are not. Since 1993, it has been City policy that only white, concrete "buttons" or "rounded turtlebacks" be used, set a minimum of 6" off the edge of the roadway pavement. Concrete pyramids or button shapes, colors, or positioning other than those allowed may be removed in accordance with Code Section 25-5.

Seawall Ordinance – The Commission has been considering modifications to the Seawall Ordinance (ULDR Sec 47-19.3). Future projections for higher sea levels need to be addressed now in areas where tidal flooding is already an issue, such as the isle communities along Cordova Road and Las Olas Boulevard. King tides are coming in higher than predicted here, and there's been unprecedented road flooding in areas that haven't flooded before. We will continue to discuss these issues during our Commission Meetings in June. For information, see <http://gyr.fortlauderdale.gov/greener-government/climate-resiliency/why-resiliency-now/comments-on-proposed-changes-to-seawall-ordinance>.

Flood Zones – To use a new interactive GIS application to look up property flood zones quickly and easily with no passwords required, simply visit the online City of Fort Lauderdale FEMA Flood Zone Viewer at <http://gis.fortlauderdale.gov/FemaFloodZones/>, enter a property address, and the program will display the property's flood zone.

Advisory Boards – I have openings on these boards and there are no District IV Applicants on file: Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, Education Advisory Board, and the Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee. You can apply online at <http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/boards/w/535c460f8191bab3>. Thank you.

Events –

- **Friday Night Sound Waves** – Through Nov. 18, you can enjoy free live music every Friday night from 5:30 – 8:30 PM at the Fort Lauderdale Beach Hub, East Las Olas and A1A. For details: <http://fridaynightsoundwaves.com>.
- **Hazardous Waste Drop-off** – Saturday, July 23, 9 AM – 2 PM, Mills Pond Park, 2201 NW 9 Avenue (Powerline Road).
- My City Hall Office Hours are Mondays from 4 – 5:30 PM and Tuesdays from 9 AM – Noon (in non-Commission weeks). To schedule a meeting, contact MJ Matthews at 954-828-5028 or mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov.